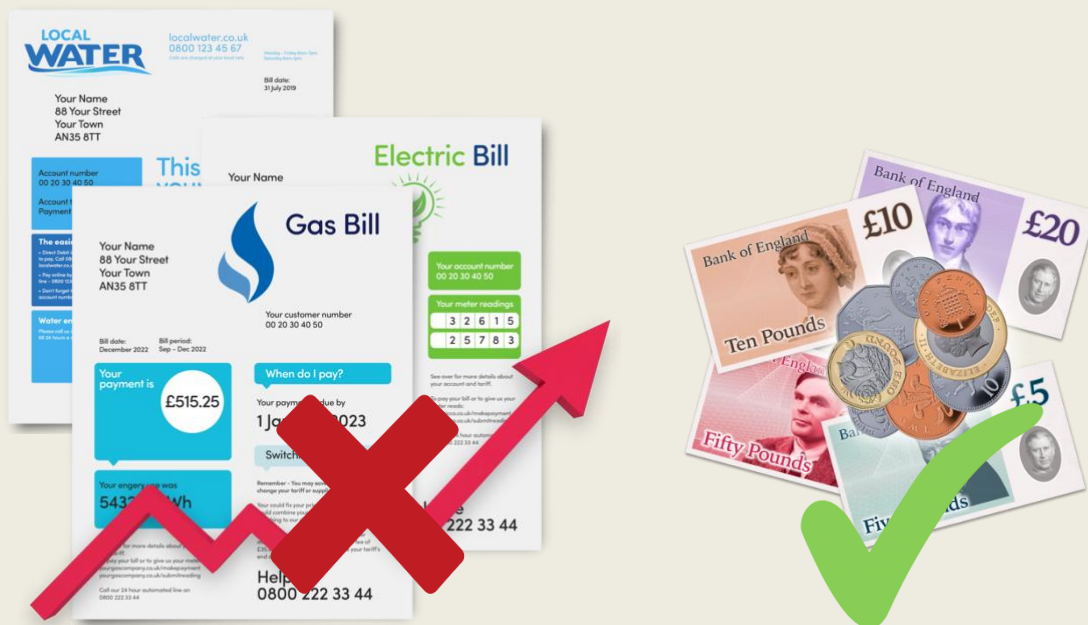


Top tips for saving money on bills

An Easy Read guide for Dimensions Tenants








This is about:

- Top tips on saving money on your bills from Dimensions Tenants Group
- It tells you about things that you can do at home to save money on your bills.



Hard words in bold in this document:

	<p>Electricity</p> <p>This is a type of energy this is used to power things like your lights, your sockets, and your shower.</p>
	<p>Ventilation</p> <p>This is the fresh air that gets into a room. To ventilate a room, we could open a window.</p>
	<p>Thermostat</p> <p>This is a piece of equipment that we use to control the temperature.</p>
	<p>Standby</p> <p>This means that something isn't switched off or on. It is a setting that means it is in a sleep mode and using less power.</p>
	<p>Appliances</p> <p>This means a piece of equipment in your house that does a task. This could be things like a fridge, freezer, or cooker.</p>

Who to contact about this document:

Housing	Kath Lisle or Tenant Engagement Group
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This document:

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Washing and drying clothes



Washing machines and tumble dryers use a lot of **electricity**.

They are in the top 5 for using the most electricity.



Make sure you have a full washing load before putting a wash on.

Doing bigger loads means you use your washing machine less.



Washing your clothes at 30c can save you up to £27 a year.








Dry your clothes outside when you can or on a clothes airer inside (with plenty of **ventilation**.) This can save you up to £55 a year.



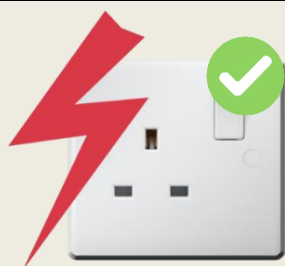
If you need to use a tumble dryer:

- dry the same type of fabric together. Different types of fabric take different times to dry.
- Make sure the filter in the tumble dryer is clean before using it.
- Don't dry one thing at a time.

Heating your room or home

	<p>It is up to you what you think is a nice and comfortable temperature for your home. The average temperature is between 18 and 21c.</p>
	<p>Turning your heating thermostat down by 1 degree can save you money on your heating bills. This can save you up to 10% on your bill.</p> <p>Doing this you could save up to £100 a year.</p> <p>Here is an example: If you usually have the temperature on your thermostat set at 20 degrees, you might choose to turn this down to 19 degrees.</p>
	<p>Only heat the rooms you use. For example, if you have a spare bedroom that is not being used, turn the radiator off in that room and keep the door shut.</p>
	<p>Turn your heating off when you are out of your house.</p>
	<p>For shared houses where some might like it hot and others colder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you can control the heat of your radiator for your own room. • There is a controller on the radiator. Turn it up (higher number) to make it warmer, or down (lower number) to make it cooler. <p>This can save you money on your bills.</p>

Using things in your room or home



Turn things off when you are not using them:

- Switch off electrical appliances at the wall.
- Don't leave things on standby.

This can save you up to £60 a year.



Have a shorter shower or a less deep bath:

- If you use electricity to run your shower or heat your water, having a shorter one will use less electricity.
- If you have a water meter, you will use less water too which saves money.

Shorter showers can save you up to £95 a year.



Don't fill your kettle up more than you need:

If you're making a cuppa, you don't need to heat a full kettle of water. Fill just above the minimum water level and this will do.

This will use less electricity save you money.



Put lids on pans:

Put a lid on pans when cooking. This keeps the heat in and heats whatever is in your pan more quickly.

This uses less energy and saves money.



Load your dishwasher properly:

Only run the dishwasher when it is full of things.



Use eco-settings:

Some appliances have a setting that is called an eco-setting. This means it uses less energy and is better for the environment.

Use this setting if your appliances have it.



Turn out lights:

When you are not in the room, turn the lights off.



Keep appliances clean:

Doing these things regularly helps things to work well and be efficient:


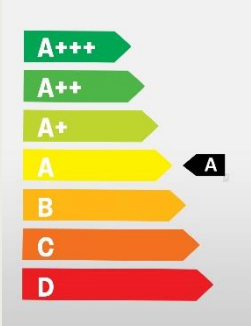
- descale your kettle.
- defrost your freezer.
- clean your tumble dryer's lint filter.



Keep the heat in:

Close curtains and blinds and use draft excluders to help keep the heat in your home.

Curtains shouldn't block your radiator but stop just below your windowsill, and above your radiator.

	<p>For drafty windows, you can easily and cheaply add draft proofing strips to stop the drafts.</p> <p>Avoid doing this in kitchens and bathrooms, as it can increase condensation.</p>
	<p>When you get new appliances: Look for things that have the rating of A+++ on it as this means they use less electricity.</p> <p>Things with an energy rating of B or C use more electricity.</p>

Useful places to learn more about this:

Website	https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/everyday-money/budgeting/how-to-save-money-on-household-bills
Website	https://www.natwest.com/energy-at-home/save-money-on-your-energy-bills.html